

Appln. No.: 10/000,415
Response dated Aug. 15, 2006
Reply to Office action of May 15, 2006

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REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are now pending. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 6-9 and 11-16; objected to claims 4, 5, 10, and 17; allowed claims 18-24.

Claims 25-45 are new. The Examiner indicated in a phone conference on August 14, 2006 that dependent claims 25-45 can be added in this After Final Response because they are dependent on independent claims that the Examiner had indicated allowable as set forth in the May 15, 2006 Office Action.

Allowed Claims

The Examiner has allowed claims 18-24. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation Examiner's allowance of claims 18-24, as set forth in the May 15, 2006 Office Action.

To the extent that the Reasons for Allowance suggest or state that certain limitations not found in the prior art are present in each of the claims 18-22 (whether or not specific language to that effect is actually found in every claim), Applicants note that the record as a whole must supplement the Examiner's stated Reasons for Allowance of claims 18-22. Applicants interpret the Examiner's statements regarding the reasons for allowing claims 18-22 to be only a few of the reasons for allowance of claims 18-22, and that other reasons also exist for allowance of the claims such as, for example, those set forth more completely in the record as a whole, particularly the claims. This interpretation is consistent with MPEP 1302.14, which states that any statement of reasons for allowance "[i]s not intended to necessarily state all the reasons for allowance or all the details why claims are allowed and should not be written to specifically or impliedly state all the reasons for allowance are set forth."

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vasic (U.S. Patent No. 6,691,263) in view of Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary.

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vasic in view of Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Olafsson (U.S. Patent No 5,910,959).

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Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vasic in view of Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Tiedemann (U.S. Patent No 5,604,730).

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vasic in view of Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary with Tiedemann as applied to claim 7 and further in view of Chen (U.S. 5,751,725).

Claims 11, 12, 13, 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen as applied to claim 11 and further in view of Olafsson.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection, however claims 1-17 have been cancelled, making the rejection thereof moot.

By this response, claims 1-17 have been cancelled and claims 25-45 have been added. Claims 25-45 are dependent claims on allowed claims; therefore Applicants believe that claims 25-45 are in condition for allowance.

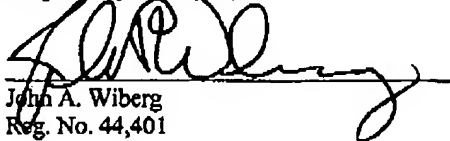
Applicant reserves the right to subsequently file a continuation application to at least continue prosecution of claims directed toward cancelled claims 1-17.

Based on at least the foregoing, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the application be allowed and passed to issuance. If the Examiner disagrees or has questions regarding this submission, Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at (312) 775-8000.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$200 (to cover the extra claim fee for four additional claims) and any additional fees or credit overpayments to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Date: August 15, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


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